

Here's a snapshot of several chiropractic laws as they existed 59 years ago:

**1943 (Jan): National Chiropractic Journal [12(1)] includes:
-editorial by Loran M. Rogers, D.C. (p. 6) (in my Rogers file):**

“Without courage there cannot be truth, and
without truth there can be no other virtue.”

The Committee on Education of the National Chiropractic Association was set up to meet a definite need for standardization of education and licensure of the profession.

Twelve Chiropractic colleges have now been given provisional, accredited ratings by the committee. Several others have applied for accrediting and signified their intentions of meeting the minimum requirements set up by the committee after intensive study of the problems involved.

Definite legislative action is needed in many of the states not only to raise the requirements for licensure to four years of professional education, but also to correlate and standardize the definitions of Chiropractic, in keeping with our professional objectives.

We quote briefly from some of the more liberal Chiropractic Acts now in force in the various states:

ARKANSAS

“Said license, when granted by said Board of Chiropractic Examiners, shall entitle the holder thereof to adjust by hand the displaced segments of the vertebral column, and any displaced tissue in any manner related thereto, for the purpose of removing any injury, deformity, or abnormality of human beings.”

CALIFORNIA

“License shall authorize the holder thereof to practice Chiropractic in the State of California as taught in Chiropractic Schools or Colleges; and, also, to use all necessary mechanical, and hygiene and sanitary measure incident to the care of the body, but shall not authorize the practice of medicine, surgery, osteopathy, dentistry or optometry, nor the use of any drug or medicine now or hereafter included in materia medica.”

FLORIDA

“Any Chiropractor who has complied with the provisions of this Act may adjust the three hundred or more articulations of the body and all structures adjacent hereto, may use the X-ray for diagnosis, but shall not prescribe or administer to any person any medicine or drug included in materia medica, perform any surgery, except as hereinafter stated, nor practice obstetrics.”

IDAHO

“Practice of Chiropractic Defined. Any licentiate under this chapter may

adjust any displaced segment of the vertebral column or any displaced tissue of any kind or nature, for the purpose of removing occlusion of nerve stimulus in the bodies of human beings, and practice physiotherapy, electrotherapy, hydrotherapy, as taught in Chiropractic Schools and Colleges, but nothing herein contained shall allow any licentiate to prescribe medicine, perform surgical operations or practice obstetrics.”

KANSAS

“Any Chiropractor who has complied with the provision of this Act may adjust by hand any displaced tissue of any kind or nature, but shall not prescribe for or administer to any person any medicine or drug now or hereafter included in materia medica, perform any minor surgery, only as hereinbefore stated, nor practice obstetrics.”

MICHIGAN

“Chiropractic is defined as the locating of misaligned or displaced vertebrae of the human spine, the procedure preparatory to and the adjustment by hand of such misaligned or displaced vertebrae and surrounding bones or tissues.”

MINNESOTA

“For the purpose of this Act, Chiropractic is hereby defined as being the science of adjusting any abnormal articulations of the human body, especially those of the spinal column, for the purpose of giving freedom of action to impinged nerves that may cause pain or deranged function.”

NEW MEXICO

“Said license, when granted by said Board of Chiropractic Examiner, shall entitle the holder thereof to diagnose and treat diseases, injuries, deformities or other physical or mental conditions, by the use of any or all methods as herein provided, such as palpating, diagnosing, adjusting and treating diseases, injuries and defects of human beings by the application of manipulative manual and mechanical means, including all natural agencies imbued with the healing act, such as food, water, heat, cold, electricity, vacuum cupping and drugless appliances, without the use of drugs or what are commonly known as medicinal preparations, or in any manner severing or penetrating any of the tissues of the human body, known as surgery.”

NORTH DAKOTA

“Any chiropractor who has complied with the provisions of this Act may adjust any displaced tissues of any kind or nature, and practice physiotherapy, electrotherapy, and hydrotherapy as taught by Chiropractic Schools and Colleges, but shall not prescribe for, or administer to any person any medicine or drug now or hereafter included in materia medica, to be taken internally, nor perform any surgery, except as herein stated, nor practice obstetrics, nor use the titles Doctor, Physician or Surgeon. But may use the title of Doctor of Chiropractic, or D.C.”

OKLAHOMA

“Chiropractic is hereby defined to be the science that teaches health in anatomic relation and disease of abnormality in anatomic disrelation, and includes hygienic and sanitary methods incident thereto.”

OREGON

“Chiropractic is defined as that system of adjusting with the hand or hands the articulations of the bony framework of the human body, and the employment and practice of physiotherapy, electrotherapy and hydrotherapy; provided, no person practicing under this Act shall write prescriptions for or dispense drugs, practice optometry, or do major surgery; provided further, this Act shall not be construed so as to interfere with or prevent the practice of, or use of massage, Swedish movement, physical culture, neuropathy, naturopathy, or other natural methods requiring the use of hand or hands.”

SOUTH DAKOTA

“The practice of Chiropractic is hereby defined to be the science of locating and removing the cause of any abnormal transmission of nerve energy including diagnostic and externally applied mechanical measures incident thereto.”

It is expected that the National Committee on State and Political Relations, in cooperation with the National Committee on Education, will be in a position to extend sound advice and constructive suggestions to those states seeking to amend laws governing educational requirements and definitions during the coming legislative sessions. Prompt cooperation of all concerned might well make 1943 a banner year of Chiropractic progress.

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